

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

Please amend Claims 1, 10, and 12, and add new Claim 27 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of access to a digital document in a communication network of the peer-to-peer type, said method being implemented in a peer device and comprising the following steps:

selecting a first data item in a digital document, the digital document comprising at least first and second data items; and

before any user request for said second data item:

verifying the presence of at least one address of a location containing the second data item of the digital document in storage means of the peer device;

in the absence of the address in the storage means of the peer device, seeking in the peer-to-peer network at least one address of a location containing the second data item among a local address on said peer device and a distant address on a distant peer device;

in the event at least one address is obtained during the seeking step, storing in the storage means of the peer device the at least one address obtained during the seeking step ;  
and

upon reception of a subsequent request to access the second data item,  
downloading the second data item of the document from one address thus stored.

2.-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the first and second data item are of the same resolution.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the digital document is a collection comprising a list of objects.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the first and second data items are of different resolutions.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the resolution of the first data item is less than that of the second data item.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the digital document comprises more than two different resolutions.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1, further comprising the following steps:

determining the first data item consisting in a current resolution of the digital document available at the peer device; and

before any user request for said second data item;

verifying the presence of at least one second address of a location containing the second data item consisting in a higher resolution of the digital document in the storage means of

the peer device;

in the absence of the address in the storage means, performing the step of seeking and the step of storing;

in the case of a positive search, storing the address obtained through the seeking step in the storage means of the peer device; and

upon receiving a subsequent request to access the higher resolution of the document, accessing the higher resolution of the document from the address thus stored.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the digital document belongs to the group consisting of fixed images or photographs, video sequences, and computer files of office application.

12. (Currently Amended) A peer device for access to a digital document in a communication network of the peer-to-peer type, said peer device comprising:

means for selecting a first data item of a digital document, the digital document comprising at least first and second data items;

processing means able to verify, before any user request for said second data item, the presence of at least one address of a location containing a second data item of the digital document in storage means of the peer device;

search means able, in the absence of the address in the storage means, to seek in the peer-to-peer network at least one address of a location containing the second data item among a local address on said peer device and a distant address on a distant peer device;

the storage means being able to store each address obtained by the search means; and means for accessing, upon reception of a subsequent request to access the second data item, downloading the second data item of the document from one address thus stored.

13.-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) A peer device according to Claim 12, wherein the first and second data items are of the same resolution.

16. (Previously Presented) A peer device according to Claim 12, wherein the digital document is a collection comprising a list of objects.

17. (Previously Presented) A peer device according to Claim 12, wherein the first and second data items are of different resolutions.

18. (Previously Presented) A peer device according to Claim 12, wherein the resolution of the first data item is less than that of the second data item.

19. (Previously Presented) A peer device according to Claim 12, wherein the digital document comprises more than two different resolutions.

20. (Previously Presented) A peer device according to Claim 12, wherein the

processing means also determines the first data item consisting in a current resolution of the digital document available at the peer device and to verify the presence of at least one address of a location containing the second data item consisting in a higher resolution of the digital document in the storage means of the peer device.

21. (Previously Presented) A peer device according to Claim 12, wherein the digital document belongs to the group consisting of fixed images or photographs, video sequences, and computer files of office application.

22.-23. (Cancelled).

24. (Previously Presented) A computer program stored in a computer-readable medium, said program containing instructions for implementing a processing method according to Claim 1, when this program is loaded in and executed by a computer system.

25. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein, when accessing the second data item of the document from one address thus stored, in the case of incomplete access, if more than one address has been obtained during the seeking step and stored in the storage means of the peer device, iteratively trying to access the second data item using another address obtained during the seeking step and stored in the storage means of the peer device and determining if the access is complete.

26. (Previously Presented) Method according to Claim 25, wherein, when no other address is available for the step of iteratively trying to access the second data item using another address obtained during the seeking step and stored in the storage means of the peer device, performing another step of seeking at least one address of a location containing the second data item in the peer-to-peer network.

27. (New) A method of access to a digital document in a communication network of the peer-to-peer type, said method being implemented in a peer device and comprising the following steps:

selecting a first data item in a digital document, the digital document comprising at least first and second data items; and

before any user request for said second data item:

verifying the presence of at least one address of a location containing the second data item of the digital document in storage means of the peer device;

in the absence of the address in the storage means of the peer device, seeking in the peer-to-peer network at least one distant location containing the second data items on a distant peer device;

in the event at least one distant address is obtained during the seeking step, storing in the storage means of the peer device the at least one distant address obtained during the seeking step; and

upon reception of a subsequent request to access the second data item, downloading the second data item of the document from address thus stored.